76 : CIA-RDP82-00457R003300460003 CENTRAL INTRILIGENCE AGENCY REPORT NO.

MFORMATION

GD NO.

China COUNTRY

SUBJECT

Unrest Among Defected Nationalist Trobps // 49

DATE DISTR. 29

NO. OF PAGES

25X1A

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

25X1X

25X1 PATE OF INFO.

- 11. In April and May 1949 former Nationalist General LI Chieh-chih led one of a series of defections in east Kwangtung which resulted in a peaceful Communist occupation of the area. Nationalist forces have since retaken a number of hsien cities, although the Communist forces still control the countryside.
- 2. The defected Nationalist troops are now showing signs of internal trouble. and 1,000 troops of LI have returned to the Nationalist side of Wuhuahsien (115-41, 24-02).
- 3. LI is being accused by Communist political workers of shirking, allowing Nationalist forces to recoup their losses, and insubordination. He is being subjected to considerable pressure and is said to have sent representatives to contact Communist leaders in Hong Kong to explain away the accusations.

Comment. believes that this information indicates instability in the Communist forces caused by their recent sudden expansion through acquiring a large number of defected Nationalist troops. This instability may be aggravated by harsh treatment by the Communists which would make it difficult for defected leaders to maintain their new loyalty. Unless the Communists can replace these leaders with newly-trained Communist leaders. they may encounter difficulty in consolidating their power.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States. Next Review Date: 2008

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